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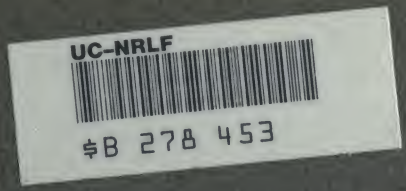

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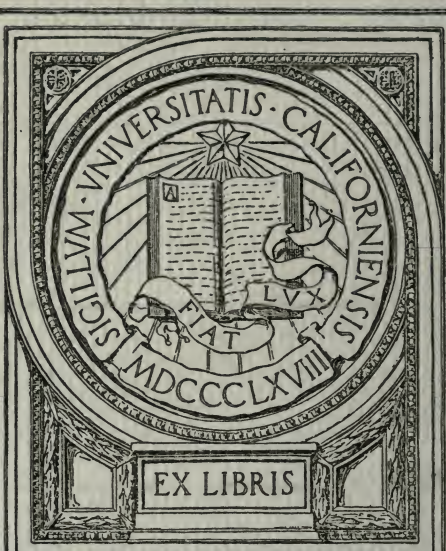
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SACRAMENTO

Patrols, Scouting, Messages

PREPARED BY

1st Lieut. KENYON A. JOYCE, 6th Cavalry,
Inspector-Instructor, 9th Cavalry District

H. S. CROCKER CO.
SAN FRANCISCO
1916

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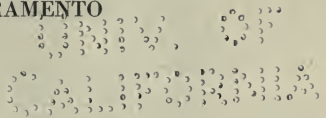

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INFORMATION.

In any military operation, reconnaissance plays a most important part. It is of vital importance that a commander have information of the enemy. If he does not have it he gropes in the dark and the efficient use of his command is an impossibility.

There are various effective ways of gaining information in the theatre of operations, but for the intimate reconnaissance that is necessary when two forces approach one another the final dependence will have to be on the mounted man and the man on foot.

We must, therefore, concentrate on the training of patrols and scouts. And it is only by constant study and persistent practice with concrete problems during peace time that this end can be accomplished. The principles of the subject must be thoroughly learned, and then these principles must be demonstrated in an applicatory way so that every man of our organizations will be able to perform intelligently any duty that might reasonably be expected of him.

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PATROLS.

During active operations, information is usually obtained by means of patrols. The classification of the various kinds of patrols is of little importance to the practical soldier, so we need not dwell on the names given them. What really counts is the ability to decide on the proper number of men to send to accomplish a given mission, the ability to instruct the patrol leader so there will be no doubt in his mind what is wanted, and the ability of the leader to perform any task given him up to the very limit of his ability.

Strength. The strength of a patrol varies according to the purpose for which it is sent out. It may be composed of anywhere from three men to a troop. In general we may state that if a patrol is sent solely to gain information, it should contain as few men as possible, and if it is expected to fight it should be strong. However, a patrol should never be stronger than necessary. Weigh carefully what you must accomplish and send the minimum number that can do the work. The following will show the usual strength of the various kinds of patrols:

Reconnoitering, 3 to 9 men.
Flanking, 2 to 8 men.
Visiting (outpost), 2 to 4 men.
Combat, 4 men to a troop.

As will be seen the first three named are for gaining information and in consequence are

small, and the last named being for the double purpose of giving warning and offering resistance may have any strength the situation demands. A rule in regard to reconnoitering patrols is that less than six men are too few to send messages and more than ten are too many to be easily concealed. In deciding on the proper number, consider the number of men you will probably need as messengers and what the chances are of your having to fight to accomplish your mission. In hostile country two men should be sent with each message, in friendly country one will usually suffice. Therefore, if you were operating in a hostile country and a patrol were sent out on a mission that would require the sending back of two messages, the strength of the patrol would be at least seven men; two for each message and at least two to be left with the leader after the last message was sent. The number that it is planned to have remain with the leader is dependent on the particular conditions that confront each patrol.

Selection of leader and patrol. An officer, and preferably a selected one, should command any patrol sent on an important or independent mission. However, the mistake must not be made of sending out officers' patrols on all occasions. A good rule on this is, never to use a particularly valuable man for a service that a less valuable man can perform. Officers, especially well-trained ones, are indispensable

and they must not be frittered away and used on work that is not commensurate with their value. Therefore, as leaders of the less important reconnoitering patrols, use selected noncommissioned officers, and of the usual flanking and outpost patrols use noncommissioned officers or especially qualified privates. Organization commanders should never designate men and horses for reconnaissance that are not suitable, and on all important patrols, men and horses should be selected for their particular fitness for this duty.

Mission. In sending out a patrol its mission is the all-important thing to consider, for on it depends the leader you select, the number of men you designate, and the conduct of the patrol by the leader. In consequence, MAKE THE MISSION CLEAR. Weigh the words in which you state it and make them few. Be exact in what you expect and leave no excuse for a half-hearted performance on the ground of misunderstanding. Both officers and noncommissioned officers should be instructed, on the other hand, always to ask for a full explanation of anything that is not perfectly clear to them in the orders they receive.

Orders to leader. As to the orders you give to a patrol leader, there is only one safe form in which to do so, *i. e.*, in the prescribed form, or sequence, of a field order. If this rule is adhered to it serves as an invaluable check, and especially so if the person to whom the

order is given understands the correct form. This sequence should always be borne in mind: 1. Enemy—Our Troops; 2, Plan; 3, Mission; 4, Messages. All noncommissioned officers should be taught the general form in which a tactical order is given, and it should be insisted upon that they always give their instructions to patrols in that form.

The following is a resumé of the instructions that should be given a patrol leader:

1. (a) **Information** of the **enemy.**
   (b) **Information** of our **supporting troops.**
   (c) Location of our outpost or other covering detachment.
   (d) Location of other friendly patrols.
2. **Plan** of the commander.
3. (a) **Mission** of the patrol (exactly and definitely what the patrol is to accomplish).
   (b) The size of the patrol.
   (c) Where the patrol is to be obtained.
   (d) General route of the patrol.
   (e) Limits of country to be observed.
   (f) Hour of departure.
   (g) Hour by which patrol is to return.
4. (a) Where **messages** should be sent.
   (b) Time at which information must reach designated point.

Thus Colonel X might instruct Lieutenant A as follows: "It is imperative that we have information of the enemy in the vicinity of ————. You are to lead a patrol on this mission.

The latest reports today stated that a force of his infantry, strength unknown, was intrenching at ————.

As you know our regiment is acting alone. The 1st Squadron is at ————, 3 miles north of here, tonight. Tomorrow a patrol will be sent from it toward ———— on the ———— road and will be on your left. Lieutenant B will have a patrol on the ———— road and will be on your right. Our outpost occupies the line ———— ———— ———— ————.

The regiment will march tomorrow at 7 a. m. on ———— via the roads it is now on. Its further action will depend on the result of your reconnaissance.

Your patrol will consist of 7 men. Select them yourself from your troop. Your captain will be notified. Proceed via the ———— ———— to the vicinity of ———— and discover the extent of the line occupied by the enemy. Observe particularly for any signs of cavalry or artillery. Start at 4.00 a. m. tomorrow. Get back to this column by 10.00 tomorrow night.

I shall be with the main body on this road. I shall reach ———— at 11.00 a. m. and shall expect definite information by that time as to whether or not the enemy is at ————."

Inspection and preparation. Under the usual conditions that govern the sending out of a patrol the leader does not have time to make the elaborate inspection and do all the things that are laid down in the textbooks. Ordina-

rily it will be necessary for a patrol to move out at once and for the leader to give his instructions on the way to the outpost or leading element of the advance guard. On important missions, however, where time permits, as in Lieutenant A's case, every safeguard that makes for the efficiency of the patrol should be looked to. Thus, upon receipt of his instructions, Lieutenant A would immediately set about preparing for his task the next day as follows:

1. He would set his watch with that of Colonel X.

2. He would make arrangements for being awakened in the morning, for breakfast for the patrol and for two cooked meals to be carried in saddle pockets.

3. He would select the men of his patrol with special reference to their particular qualifications for the work, and would assemble them.

4. He would question the men relative to their horses, arms and equipment and would inspect where there was any possibility of doubt. He would make sure that there were no horses of conspicuous color, that there was none that neighed or pawed excessively, that they were free from coughs and that their feet and backs were in excellent condition. He would make sure that the men were in good physical condition and that no man had a cough. He would instruct his men that two

cooked meals and a feed of grain were to be taken and would caution each to fill his canteen with water or coffee. He would caution them to have their equipment complete and so arranged as not to glisten or rattle. He would caution against the possession of any letters, maps or newspapers that might be of use to the enemy in case of capture.

5. He would explain the mission of the patrol and give in substance the instructions he had received. He would explain any plan he had formed and would point out on the map the route of the patrol and the important features of the terrain.

6. He would explain the formation the patrol would take on leaving the outpost line, would assign the various men to their positions in the patrol, would designate a second in command unless such existed by virtue of rank, and would give any special directions as to the conduct of the patrol that the particular mission demanded.

7. He would insure that all understood a simple set of signals. Par. 29, Field Service Regulations, states: "In addition to the usual signals prescribed in drill regulations, the following should be clearly understood by members of a patrol:

"Enemy in sight in small numbers, hold the rifle above the head horizontally; enemy in force, same as preceding, raising and lowering

the rifle several times; take cover, a downward motion of the hand.

"Other signals may be agreed upon before starting, but they must be familiar to the men; complicated signals are avoided."

8. He would cause the patrol to sleep in one place so he could wake them in the morning without delay. He would have the horses tied at one end of the picket line and arrange for their being fed before starting.

9. He would check his own equipment to make sure it was complete.

10. He would study his map and complete his plans for the next day.

Equipment of leader. Prospective patrol leaders should always be equipped for such duty, except as to field glasses in case of non-commissioned officers. The leader's equipment consists of arms and ammunition, field glasses, pencils, eraser, maps, whistle, watch, message pad, notebook, small ruler showing pace, yard and time scales, compass and wire cutters.

Instructions by leader. No matter in what haste a patrol is sent out there are certain things that must always be done by the leader before his reconnaissance or other task actually begins.

1. He must instruct his patrol in detail as to their mission, following in this the instructions he received, and add any plan he has formed.

2. He must make clear the particular formation the patrol is to take.

3. He designates a second in command (unless such exists ex-officio).

4. He makes sure that a simple set of signals is thoroughly understood.

5. He assures himself that no man has any maps, letters or newspapers that might be of value to the enemy in case of capture.

Formation of patrol. The formation that is taken by a patrol is dictated by the situation, of course, but it usually follows the principles that govern the formation on the march of any body of troops in an enemy country. That is, it has what corresponds to an advance guard, main body and rear guard and, when necessary, flank protection. Also the formation of its various subdivisions is such as to make it least vulnerable to rifle fire or sudden mounted attack. There is no such thing as a normal formation for a patrol. The broad principles must govern that a patrol have such formation that it can travel fast enough to accomplish its mission, that it can be assembled for instant action and that it will not be annihilated by a single volley or sudden burst of fire from a concealed enemy. An example of a good formation for a patrol of nine men is as follows:

In the lead as a point, a noncommissioned officer (usually the second in command) and one man at 20 yards distance, on opposite sides

of the road; about 60 yards farther to the rear the officer (or noncommissioned leader) and 4 men at 10 yards distance, alternately on either side of the road; and about 60 yards farther to the rear the remaining 2 men at 15 yards distance, on opposite sides of the road. Flank reconnaissance is carried on by the main body. In general a patrol should not cover less than 100 yards of road or more than 250 yards no matter what its size. A proper understanding of the principles that govern the formation of a patrol is a vital part of the training of our patrol leaders and therefore these principles must be emphasized most strongly in all our work. We must teach them to think of what they wish to accomplish and then take the formation and act in the manner that the situation demands.

Conduct of patrol. In conducting his patrol a leader must always be governed by his mission and the particular situation that confronts him. Above all he must use good common sense, be bold and be ever on the alert.

A patrol must move as rapidly as is consistent with its mission and its safety, and, therefore, it must remain on the road and use flankers or flank reconnaissance only when necessary. Good judgment must be used on the amount of time used in minute reconnaissance. Excessive caution must be exercised as soon as you gain touch with the enemy, so if time is to be saved a patrol must move rapidly

during the early stages of its mission. From this, however, it must not be surmised that an excessively rapid gait should be taken. Nothing is so easily expended and likewise nothing is so precious to us in campaign as horseflesh, so our thoughts must always be toward conserving it. Occasions will be rare that will justify other than an alternate walk and trot in the prosecution of the average task.

The usual method of advance for a patrol is from one crest or point of cover to another or, as it is termed, by "successive bounds." The advantages of this method are obvious. A point of vantage is reached, and, with the patrol concealed the front and flanks are thoroughly observed. If nothing is seen that needs further attention a rapid advance is made to the next point and so on.

A place of assembly or rendezvous is designated from time to time by the leader in case the patrol is compelled to scatter to avoid capture.

Defiles of any sort are deserving of special attention; they *must* be approached with caution. Before entering one, have it reconnoitered by a couple of men and then pass through it rapidly, or, if it is practicable, reconnoiter it originally with the patrol on a broad front.

It is better to reconnoiter towns and villages from a distance and to avoid passing through them if it can be done without material loss of time. It is a good rule to keep out of towns

or enclosures of any sort unless it is absolutely necessary to enter them.

Utilize the important lookout points along the route for the halting places of the patrol, and when halted be concealed and always establish a march outpost; that is, members of the patrol are so placed as to observe the front, flanks and rear. Remember that no excuse can ever justify surprise. To be taken unawares is nothing short of criminal neglect.

Whether or not a patrol fights is dictated solely by its mission and the particular situation that confronts it. Security or covering patrols (combat patrols, etc.) fight whenever it is necessary, as that is part of the task assigned them. Reconnaissance patrols, on the other hand, never fight unless it is absolutely necessary to successful accomplishment of their missions. The leader must decide in each case the action that will best serve his purpose. If a patrol does have to fight, the boldness with which it acts will have a great deal to do with the outcome. Our leaders should be instructed, therefore, that if they must fight they should act mounted and hit first and hit hard. It is remarkable how bold action coupled with a little luck wins against odds.

A high sense of duty is an essential attribute of any patrol leader. He must never quit while there is a possibility of accomplishing what he is sent out to do. Changing conditions may make it impossible for him to succeed, but he

must never let physical difficulties, danger or hardship cause him to give up or half-heartedly attempt his mission. Leaders must be produced who will think, who will use common sense in time of stress, who will surmount every difficulty and who will accomplish any task up to the very limit of their ability.

Observing and reporting. No small part of the training for patrol duty is the development of the ability to observe correctly and likewise the ability to state concisely and accurately what has been seen. Also it is obvious that the information that the leader gets will have no value to any one unless he gets it back to his commander in time to be used. Our training, therefore, must be most thorough along these lines.

Any indications of the enemy must be looked for carefully. If contact has not yet been gained, the first certain information of the enemy must be reported to the commander at once. A leader must always make sure, however, that any hostile patrol or detachment he sees is not followed immediately by a larger body. The first information of the enemy is highly important, but at the same time it is fatal to waste messengers in the early stages of a reconnaissance. They do not return as a rule, so each time they are sent the patrol is depleted to that extent. Therefore, impress upon the leader the necessity for observing accurately and fully. Negative information

should not be sent unless it is ordered by the commander or unless a message is directed to be sent by a certain hour.

In observing a hostile force try to gain some high point from which it can all be seen at once. If this cannot be done and the force is marching, its strength may be estimated by the time it takes to pass a given point.

The following table gives the number of troops passing a given point in one minute (Par. 27, F. S. R.):

Infantry in 4's.....175
Infantry in 2's..... 88
Cavalry in 4's...110 (walk) 200 (trot)
Cavalry in 2's... 55 (walk) 100 (trot)
Guns, caissons, or wagons..... 5

A thick cloud of dust indicates infantry.

A high thin cloud indicates cavalry.

A broken cloud indicates artillery or trains.

Care must be exercised in estimating by dust clouds, however, as they are often deceptive.

Miscellaneous notes. 1. You cannot expect any patrol leader, no matter how efficient, to combine missions of reconnaissance for the enemy and map making. If you want a patrol to find the enemy, send it out with that as a sole mission. If you want a map, send a competent person to make it and make that his sole mission. If you give a man both missions as an initial task, he cannot do either well.

2. Impress most strongly on patrol leaders that they **must not** fritter away their men.

Teach them to keep their patrols concentrated within safe limits and ready for instant action as a whole.

3. Travel should be by main road or by a side road from which the main road can be observed. Main roads are the ones that will be used by important bodies of the enemy.

4. A patrol's mission is usually to locate the enemy's main body, or other important hostile body. When contact is once gained it should be maintained at all costs and valuable information obtained.

5. Be insistent that the information gained reaches the commander it is intended for in time to be of value.

6. Caution must be observed in interviewing inhabitants of a hostile country. It will often be necessary, but they probably will inform the enemy of your movements.

7. The capturing of prisoners seldom justifies the loss of time and the action entailed and therefore it is to be avoided unless it is ordered or there is a probability of gaining important information from them.

SCOUTING.

The efficient performance of any mission by a patrol is dependent to a very great extent on the scouting ability of the individual members of that patrol. Therefore the training of the scout is highly important and should be concentrated upon in any course of instruction. Scouting ability depends largely on the faculties of the man which, of necessity, precludes many men from attaining any great degree of efficiency in it. In consequence, only the most likely men should be selected for the more extended instruction, though every cavalry soldier should be given a good knowledge of scouting and he should know thoroughly his duties as a member of a patrol.

Scouts usually work singly or in pairs, so above all they must be hardy, self-reliant men who are thoroughly at home in the open and who can rise to the necessities of any emergency. In addition to being alert, keen of sight and hearing, good riders, good on foot and good swimmers, to be of maximum value, they must be trained military observers who are able to make correct deductions from what they see and furthermore be able to state those deductions in writing in intelligible form. Ability to read a map is essential, as is also the ability to make a rough sketch that is of military value.

Finding the way. Whether or not a man is thoroughly at home in the open depends very

largely upon his ability to find his way no matter how strange or how difficult the country in which he is operating may be.

A good map is of course the best means of finding the way, but unfortunately good maps are not always available and other means must usually be depended upon. The most valuable of these is the compass. It is invaluable in latitudes where there are extended rainy periods during which the sky is obscured. The declination of the needle from the true north should be known for the locality.

To the experienced scout the sun indicates very closely both direction and time. For the beginner the north and south line may be found by means of a watch as follows: Point the hour hand at the sun and then with a pencil or straight stick bisect the angle between the hour hand and twelve; this direction will be south. With experience, of course, the use of the watch becomes unnecessary, as direction can be told as well with the sun alone.

At night the stars furnish the best means of determining direction. Of these by far the easiest to guide by and one of the easiest to find is the North Star. Other stars and constellations and the moon are equally useful for direction to those experienced in their observation.

When starting on any march or reconnaissance careful note should be made of the general direction to be taken both by compass and

with relation to any prominent landmarks. In jungle or high grass or in a flat country where there are no prominent features it will be necessary to keep accurate track of changes of direction. All prominent features, such as mountains, streams, lone trees, church spires, peculiar houses, etc., should be noted at all times and the direction with relation to them kept in mind. Also the scout must frequently look back at landmarks as their appearance changes greatly from different viewpoints. Observation must, of course, extend to near-by objects and in thickly wooded country resort may be had to blazing trees in marking a trail.

Getting lost is a thing that may happen to even the most experienced scout, but the possibility of such may be greatly minimized if, through habit, he keeps constantly in mind the matter of direction. Being at home in the open is mostly a matter of deduction and common sense. The danger in being lost usually comes from allowing fear to overbalance these qualities. When the way has been lost the most important thing is to set about calmly to discover a solution for the problem. It is worse than useless to get excited and waste energy. In most cases the way is lost at night, in which event it is usually best to stay where you are until daylight when the situation will more than likely solve itself.

There is such a thing as a sense of direction. We find it to a very marked degree in animals

and birds and the scout is fortunate indeed in whom it is highly developed. While it is an invaluable possession and will stand a scout well in an emergency, still the efficient scout does not trust to it but instead depends upon observation and deduction for his directions. The homing instinct of the horse can be used at times with good results, especially when a trail has been lost, or obliterated with snow.

Observation and deduction. To be alert and keen of sight and hearing are indispensable to the scout. While these qualities are gifts of nature to a great extent, still they can all be made more valuable than they naturally are, by training and practice. A scout is of little use unless he can see the enemy first. He must constantly observe for him in the distance and for signs of him close at hand. Practice in distinguishing distant objects enhances the value of even the best eyesight. Moving objects are easy to see, so the most efficient way of observing is to approach a lookout or point of cover unseen and from it watch intently for movements or signs of the enemy. Scouts advance rapidly from one point of cover or lookout to another as do patrols.

The sense of hearing in the individual cannot be made more acute, but it can be trained to distinguish and interpret sounds and thereby be a great asset in scouting. Sounds are much more distinct at night than in the daytime, and it is then that the sense of hear-

ing plays a most important part. Knowledge should be had of the sounds made by horses' hoofs at the various gaits, and an efficient scout should be able to distinguish between the noise made in the brush and woods by animals and that made by an approaching enemy. The horse may be utilized advantageously in this respect, as his sense of hearing is extremely acute and he will usually cock his ears and look in the direction from which something is approaching.

Concealment. The ability to see the enemy first is little more important than the ability to keep hidden from him. Above all a scout must keep hidden while observing and never excite suspicion by any movement that the enemy can see. What is seen of the enemy is in great measure dependent on the craft with which the observer keeps his presence from being known, for an enemy knowing that he is watched becomes doubly cautious. The stealth of the American Indian in approaching an enemy has served as a model for scouts of all countries, and well it may, as it is the highest exemplification of stalking.

The skyline of hills should be approached with great caution whether by day or night. Select a bush or bunch of grass that may be approached without the enemy seeing you, then crawl to it and look through without giving any sign of your presence. If no bush or bunch of grass is available at the exact spot

where the reconnaissance must be made, concealment may be had by carrying a shrub or tuft of grass to the skyline and raising it *very* slowly until sufficient cover is furnished for the head.

If an animal or bird is the same color as the brush it is in or the background it is against, and remains motionless, it is exceedingly difficult to see, which furnishes us with one of the best examples of concealment. In consequence, a scout, while observing, must always choose a background with which the color of his clothing will blend and then he must remain motionless while in this position.

If a tree is selected as a lookout he should follow the example of the tree-climbing animals and lie along a branch or remain close to the trunk.

Trailing. Trailing or tracking is the highest development of the art of scouting. It must be learned by practice, and proficiency in it is only attained after extended experience in its many phases. It is one of the principal ways a scout has of gaining information, and so is well worth the time necessary to master it.

The tracks of men and horses and vehicles must all be studied and knowledge gained of their appearance while traveling at different rates of speed. For example, if the tracks of a man at a walk and run be studied it will be found that they differ in that the tracks at the run are farther apart, the toes are more

deeply dug in and the dirt in the track is disturbed more. The tracks of the horse at various gaits should be studied so that it can be told at a glance at what gait he was traveling. This can be accomplished by a series of practical exercises. The tracks of different kinds of vehicles must be understood so that with a little examination it can be told what sort of a vehicle passed and in what direction it was going. Development of this ability comes from close observation and a repeated comparative study of the different tracks under varying conditions.

The age of tracks must be determined by experience and by deduction. The condition of tracks as to moisture, droppings of horses, upturned stones, trodden grass, broken bushes, etc., are all useful signs in this determination.

Time is usually an important element in trailing and in consequence the most likely ground ahead in the direction of the trail should be chosen for examination for tracks. Often it wil be found that if the tracker looks twenty or thirty yards ahead, and especially against the sun, any small indentation in the ground will show a shadow. Also by looking well to the front the trail may be distinctly seen by means of the grass that has been bent or broken down or by stones or earth that have been displaced.

If the trail has been lost a "cast" should be made to find it. That is, with the last track

as a center, travel in a wide circle with a radius of fifty or one hundred yards and hunt for the trail, examining all likely ground most carefully. The last track should be distinctly marked by tying a handkerchief to a stick, or by some other effective means, so that its location can be easily seen. If the trail is not picked up by this method recourse must be had to deduction as to the probable direction the enemy has taken and effort made to get back on his trail in this way.

Miscellaneous. Study the habits of the enemy as you would study the habits of any game you were hunting, and in time you will be able to tell pretty closely what he is going to do next.

Constant, progressive practice with concrete problems is the only way in which scouts can be developed.

The subject may be summed up by saying that success in it depends upon common sense, alertness and deduction and assiduous daily practice in the various phases of the art.

It takes years to develop the scout, but the service they render in time of war repays a hundredfold for the time expended in their training.

MESSAGES.

Beware of verbal messages. You will find very few men who can deliver them accurately under ordinary circumstances, and under the stress of service in a hostile country those who can do so will be rare indeed. If it is necessary to send a verbal message confine it to one idea if possible; or at most two, and insure that the messenger understands the message exactly by causing him to repeat it. It may often be advisable, when time precludes the writing of a formal message, to write a few key words (the gist of the message) on a piece of paper so as to prevent the messenger from forgetting or misstating his information.

When reporting any information always differentiate between what you have seen and what has been told you. If you have seen something say that you have and state it as a fact. If something has been reported to you state so and give the source of your information, adding, if you think necessary, your opinion as to its reliability. Be exact in what you state. If the enemy is moving give the road he is on, where he is on that road and the point of the compass or the town or locality toward which he is marching. If the enemy is halted, locate him definitely with relation to some well defined point on the map.

Write the message legibly, be sure of the spelling of proper names and P-R-I-N-T them in capital letters that there may be no mistake.

Write the date of the message as prescribed in Field Service Regulations, that is, the day first, then the month and then the year, as 16 July 1915. Ordinarily state in the message what you are going to do next, though do not do so if it probably will endanger your safety.

As a rule, and especially if you have gained contact and are out some distance, address the message simply to the Commanding Officer (C. O.). Your messenger knows to whom to take it, and if the organization is not stated in the address this information will not fall into the hands of the enemy in case the message is lost or the messenger captured. In hostile country two men should always be sent with a written message. They should be made to repeat the contents and should be instructed to destroy the message rather than allow it to fall into the hands of the enemy. They should be instructed as to the route to take and to show the message or give the information it contains to intermediate commanders along the road, such as outpost or advance guard commanders. The rate of speed that messengers are to take should be specified and they should be cautioned not to exceed this rate unless urgent necessity requires. The unnecessary galloping of messengers is a very effective means of killing horses. The ordinary rate of speed should be five miles per hour, rapid seven to eight miles, and urgent ten to twelve miles. Figure the time that a message should reach your

commander to be of use and then specify the rate of speed that will get it there. Especially in a friendly country, the telegraph and telephone should be made use of for the transmission of messages whenever possible.

As a rule, messengers do not return to the patrol and in consequence you have no means of knowing that your message was delivered. Therefore, you must number your messages No. 1, No. 2, etc., so that your commander will know if a message has failed to reach him. If you are sending messages to more than one commander have a separate series of numbers for each. In each message after the first it is well to give a resumé of important information contained in previous messages. This insures against failure of important information reaching the commander in case previous messages are not delivered. The time stated on the message is the time that it is completed and signed. An example follows:

U. S. Army Field Message	No.	Sent by	Time	Rec'd by	Time	Check
Communicated by **BUZZER, PHONE, TELEGRAPH, RADIO, LANTERN, HELIO, FLAG, CYCLIST, FOOT MESSENGER, MOUNTED MESSENGER.** (Underscore means used)						

From Lieut. A's patrol.
At Hill 506—1 mile south of EASTON.
Date 16 July 1915. Hour 9.46 A. M. No. 2.

To C. O.

From this point can see what appears to be two (2) regiments of infantry intrenching on ridge 600 yards north of WALNUT CREEK. Line apparently extends from MILLS CORNERS to HILL 490. No signs of cavalry or artillery. Infantry mounted scouts active. Have avoided two of their patrols. Remain here in observation.

Message No. 1 stated no enemy at NEWTON at 7.10 A. M.

A., Lieut.

Received.....

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